

VETERANS' BENEFITS ENHANCEMENT ACT—MOTION TO PROCEED—Resumed

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to proceed to S. 1315 is agreed to.

DeMint
Dole
Domenici
Ensign
Enzi
Graham
Grassley
Gregg
Hatch

Hutchison
Inhofe
Isakson
Kyl
Lugar
Martinez
McConnell
Murkowski
Reid

Roberts
Sessions
Shelby
Stevens
Thune
Vitter
Voinovich
Warner
Wicker

NOT VOTING—2

Hagel
McCain

LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT OF 2007—MOTION TO PROCEED—Continued

CLOTURE MOTION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, pursuant to rule XXII, the Chair lays before the Senate the pending cloture motion, which the clerk will state.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

CLOTURE MOTION

We, the undersigned Senators, in accordance with the provisions of rule XXII of the Standing Rules of the Senate, hereby move to bring to a close debate on the motion to proceed to Calendar No. 325, H.R. 2831, the Fair Pay Act.

Harry Reid, Daniel K. Inouye, Barbara Boxer, Patty Murray, Byron Dorgan, Edward M. Kennedy, Christopher J. Dodd, Daniel K. Akaka, Benjamin L. Cardin, Patrick J. Leahy, Bernard Sanders, Sherrod Brown, Amy Klobuchar, Richard Durbin, Ken Salazar, Sheldon Whitehouse, Max Baucus.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. By unanimous consent, the mandatory quorum call is waived.

The question is, Is it the sense of the Senate that debate on the motion to proceed to H.R. 2831, the Fair Pay Act, shall be brought to a close?

The yeas and nays are mandatory under the rule.

The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. KYL. The following Senators are necessarily absent: the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL) and the Senator from Arizona (Mr. MCCAIN).

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Are there any other Senators in the Chamber desiring to vote?

The yeas and nays resulted—yeas 56, nays 42, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 110 Leg.]

YEAS—56

| | | |
|----------|------------|-------------|
| Akaka | Feingold | Nelson (FL) |
| Baucus | Feinstein | Nelson (NE) |
| Bayh | Harkin | Obama |
| Biden | Inouye | Pryor |
| Bingaman | Johnson | Reed |
| Boxer | Kennedy | Rockefeller |
| Brown | Kerry | Salazar |
| Byrd | Klobuchar | Sanders |
| Cantwell | Kohl | Schumer |
| Cardin | Landrieu | Smith |
| Carper | Lautenberg | Snowe |
| Casey | Leahy | Specter |
| Clinton | Levin | Stabenow |
| Coleman | Lieberman | Sununu |
| Collins | Lincoln | Tester |
| Conrad | McCaskill | Webb |
| Dodd | Menendez | Whitehouse |
| Dorgan | Mikulski | Wyden |
| Durbin | Murray | |

NAYS—42

| | | |
|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Alexander | Brownback | Cochran |
| Allard | Bunning | Corker |
| Barrasso | Burr | Cornyn |
| Bennett | Chambliss | Craig |
| Bond | Coburn | Crapo |

The PRESIDING OFFICER. On this vote, the yeas are 56, the nays are 42. Three-fifths of the Senators duly chosen and sworn not having voted in the affirmative, the motion is not agreed to.

Mr. REID. Madam President, I move to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked on the motion to proceed to H.R. 2831.

Mr. REID. Madam President, we are within minutes of working out something to complete tomorrow's work. There will be no more votes tonight. We should have several votes tomorrow. Probably, if things work out right, we will have three votes tomorrow. We should finish before 2:30 tomorrow afternoon.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Massachusetts is recognized.

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam President, I am deeply disappointed we were not able to get the required 60 votes. With the majority leader's vote, we would have had 57 votes—57 votes. There is virtually unanimous opposition on the other side of the aisle to restore what had been fairness and decency and equity in our fair pay laws.

I think most of us who have been around this institution for some time and who have been involved in the civil rights issue understand if you don't have a remedy, you don't have a right. This debate was about restoring a right to Lilly Ledbetter, her right to be treated fairly in the workplace and the rights of millions of others too. Those who are disabled, elderly, people in our society of various national origins, those of particular religious faiths, and women all are threatened by the underlying Supreme Court decision. That has to be altered. It has to be changed.

I welcome the fact that our majority leader has sent a powerful signal by indicating that we will come back and revisit this issue. This issue is about fairness. It is about equity. If we are going to permit discrimination in the workplace, we shouldn't permit it to pay, and the best way to make sure it does not pay is to provide the remedy to ensure it will not.

This is an early skirmish in this battle toward true fairness and equity and equitable pay for women and all others in our society. I look forward to working with our colleagues in the ongoing battle. I am very hopeful and optimistic that the next time we will get the votes that are necessary to permit us to take final action on this legislation.

Again, I thank the majority leader for his addressing this issue and for his willingness to bring this back to the

floor so we can have further debate and discussion on it.

And I would like to thank my staff—Charlotte Burrows, Sharon Block, and Portia Wu, who worked very hard on this important legislation. I would also like to thank Michael Myers, Scott Fay, and Kate Dowling from my staff for all of their help.

VETERANS' BENEFITS ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2007

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will report the pending business.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

A bill (S. 1315) to amend Title 38, United States Code, to enhance life insurance benefits for disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill, which had been reported from the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, with an amendment to strike all after the enacting clause and insert in lieu thereof the following:

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) *SHORT TITLE.*—This Act may be cited as the "Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act of 2007".

(b) *TABLE OF CONTENTS.*—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Reference to title 38, United States Code.

TITLE I—INSURANCE MATTERS

Sec. 101. Level-premium term life insurance for veterans with service-connected disabilities.

Sec. 102. Administrative costs of service disabled veterans' insurance.

Sec. 103. Modification of servicemembers' group life insurance coverage.

Sec. 104. Supplemental insurance for totally disabled veterans.

Sec. 105. Expansion of individuals qualifying for retroactive benefits from traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

Sec. 106. Consideration of loss dominant hand in prescription of schedule of severity of traumatic injury under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance.

Sec. 107. Designation of fiduciary for traumatic injury protection coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance in case of lost mental capacity or extended loss of consciousness.

Sec. 108. Enhancement of veterans' mortgage life insurance.

TITLE II—HOUSING MATTERS

Sec. 201. Home improvements and structural alterations for totally disabled members of the Armed Forces before discharge or release from the Armed Forces.

Sec. 202. Eligibility for specially adapted housing benefits and assistance for members of the Armed Forces with service-connected disabilities and individuals residing outside the United States.

Sec. 203. Specially adapted housing assistance for individuals with severe burn injuries.

Sec. 204. Extension of assistance for individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

Sec. 205. Supplemental specially adapted housing benefits for disabled veterans.

Sec. 206. Report on specially adapted housing for disabled individuals.